

MENTAL ILLNESS RESEARCH

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, with the tragic shooting at Fort Hood this past week, our country has once again been ravaged by the convergence of mental instability and gun rampages.

As President Obama did today, let us honor those lost to this terrible tragedy—Sergeant First Class Danny Ferguson, Sergeant Timothy Owens, and soldier Carlos Lazaney—and continue to pray for the injured as they recover, as well as all those in uniform who serve our Nation.

As this is now the second shooting at Fort Hood in recent years, Americans and we, in Congress, must again ask ourselves: Isn't it time for a national conversation on untreated mental illness?

As a member of the Appropriations Defense Subcommittee, we must use this moment to support early diagnosis, as well as pathbreaking neurological research, building on the President's BRAIN Initiative. We must probe the undiscovered functions of the human mind and human performance.

Advanced research and treatment will benefit both our deserving veterans and all Americans who struggle with the unknown reaches of the unquiet mind.

Again, I lend my support to honor the heroes lost at Fort Hood, and I implore my colleagues to make certain this latest tragedy is, indeed, the last tragedy. Let us measure up to this worthy challenge.

THE RYAN BUDGET

(Ms. BONAMICI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the 2015 Ryan budget, a budget that will hurt middle class Americans while, at the same time, giving breaks to some of the wealthiest people in this country.

Early childhood education is important, but the Ryan budget cuts Head Start. Millions of Americans are still struggling to find work in a changing economy. Instead of investing in programs to prepare the unemployed for new careers, this budget cuts job training.

Nearly 16 million children are food-insecure, and we know that growing up hungry is directly correlated to a child's academic success. This budget guts the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and for millions of young people with dreams of attending college, this budget offers them no hope; instead, it cuts Pell grant aid.

We must do more to invest in this great Nation if we want to continue our economic recovery and create a brighter future, and instead of robust investments in infrastructure and transportation, the Ryan budget takes

us backward. Mr. Speaker, we can and we should and we must do better.

A TRIBUTE TO ANNE TAYLOR

(Ms. LEE of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise with an extremely heavy heart to pay tribute to the life of our beloved Anne Louise Taylor who passed away last week.

Words cannot really express my sadness as we mourn Anne's untimely death. She served as my district director for more than 5 years, but more importantly, she was a trusted and loving friend.

Anne's contributions to the residents of the East Bay were enormous. With true compassion and commitment, she touched the lives of thousands of people. Prior to joining my office, Anne's accomplished public career included working for California Assembly Member and California State Board of Equalization Member Johan Klehs; was district director for Assembly Member Ellen Corbett; and was head of government relations at California State East Bay during the administration of President Mo Quayoumi.

Not only was she a true public servant and a phenomenal woman, but she was deeply passionate about her community of Alameda, California, where she attended high school and loved the Fourth of July parade and the Alameda Point Antique Faire.

Our deepest condolences from my office, my community, and my staff. Our condolences go out to Anne's two exceptional daughters, Eleanore and Grace Guenon, and to her entire family, whom she loved deeply.

Our thoughts and our prayers are with them during these very difficult days. May her spirit continue to soar and her memory stay very close to our hearts. She touched so many lives. We know that her soul is resting in peace.

HONORING KRISTIN FULFORD

(Mr. BARROW of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARROW of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kristin Fulford, a member of my 12th District staff for the past 9 years. Kristin has been an invaluable part of our team, handling thousands of casework issues for folks all over my district.

Kristin has made sure that folks received their Social Security and Medicare payments, helped high school students prepare to enter one of our Nation's military institutions, and has done almost everything else in between.

You would be hard-pressed to find anyone in the 12th District who doesn't know someone that Kristin has helped. She has been a team player who, for nearly a decade, has taken pride in helping the folks in our communities.

All of us in Congress know how hard our staffs work, and we know we wouldn't be here if it weren't for people like Kristin, who are our eyes, ears, and helping hands when we can't be home.

I wish Kristin, her husband, Edward, and their daughter, Wren, all the best as she begins her new journey, and I know the folks in my district will miss her as much as I will.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF "THE GRAPES OF WRATH"

(Mr. FARR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 75th anniversary of one of the greatest pieces of American literature, John Steinbeck's "The Grapes of Wrath." The National Steinbeck Center in his hometown of Salinas, California, is celebrating all year, with events throughout the country.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning novel was published on April 14, 1939. Set during the Great Depression, the novel captured the brutal honesty, the story of migrant farmworkers fleeing Oklahoma's Dust Bowl in search of new opportunity in California. Steinbeck wanted to shine a light on the social injustices that plagued the working poor.

Sparkling controversy, it quickly rose to the top of the bestsellers list. It was banned and burned in many parts of the country.

Inspired by the novel, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt helped pass new labor laws after touring the shocking conditions of the California camps. "The Grapes of Wrath" changed the way we viewed poverty in this country.

This is why it figured prominently in the decision to award Steinbeck the Nobel Prize. Even today, the novel still offers us hope—hope that our best days lie before us. Steinbeck's words resonate just as true today as they did 75 years ago.

THE RYAN BUDGET

(Mr. RUIZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RUIZ. Once again, through the Ryan budget, House leadership is seeking to balance the budget on the backs of hard-working American families and seniors, undermining the economic recovery, and ending the Medicare guarantee.

As an emergency medicine physician, I know firsthand that many of the seniors I care for rely on the Medicare they have earned. In fact, in Riverside County, California, alone over 250,000 seniors rely on Medicare.

Our priority should be reducing health care costs in order to make Medicare stronger and more sustainable, but this budget transforms Medicare into a voucher program, shifting